

Message Text

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TAGS: AORG, OCON, UNESCO

SUBJECT:104TH EXBD: ITEM 4.2 (20 C/5) - NATURAL SCIENCES

1. FOLLOWING ARE INSTRUCTIONS REGARDING OBJECTIVE 7.3,
WATER RESOURCES:

2. U.S. POSITION

(A) PARA 2392: USDEL SHOULD PROPOSE THE FOLLOWING CHANGE
TO THE LAST ITEM IN PARAGRAPH 2 OF THE RESOLUTION.
INSTEAD OF QUOTE TO GIVE HIGH PRIORITY TO DEVELOPING, IM-
PROVING AND ADAPTING THE EXISTING TEACHING METHODS UNQUOTE,
SUBSTITUTE QUOTE TO GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO DEVELOPING,
IMPROVING AND ADAPTING, IN CONSULTATION WITH THE EDUCA-
TION SECTOR OF UNESCO, THE EXISTING TEACHING METHODS
UNQUOTE.

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(B) PARA 2395: USDEL SHOULD PROPOSE ADDING THE FOLLOW-
ING: (BEGIN QUOTE) FIRST PHASE PROJECTS THAT ARE NOT COM-
PLETED DURING THE FIRST PHASE WILL BE EXPECTED TO COMPETE
WITH PROPOSALS FOR NEW WORK IN THE PROGRAM FOR THE SECOND
PHASE. (END QUOTE)

(C) PARA 2399: USDEL SHOULD NOTE WITH REGRET THE OMISSION OF ANY MENTION OF A UNESCO-WMO INTERNATIONAL REVIEW CONFERENCE, AND SHOULD SUGGEST THAT UNESCO AND WMO SHOULD CONVENE A MEETING AT THE EARLIEST POSSIBLE TIME TO REVIEW THE ACCOMPLISHMENTS OF THE FIRST PHASE OF THE IHP AND ADVISE REGARDING THE PROGRAM OF ACTIVITIES FOR THE SECOND PHASE.

(D) PARAS 2416-2433: USDEL SHOULD NOTE WITH SATISFACTION THE SUPPORT WHICH THE DRAFT PROGRAM AND BUDGET FOR IHP GIVES BOTH TO TRAINING OF TECHNICIANS AND TO TRAINING OF THOSE WHO TEACH THE TECHNICIANS THEIR SKILLS, AND EXPRESS ENCOURAGEMENT FOR EFFORTS TO STRENGTHEN THESE VITAL LINKS IN THE PROCESS WHEREBY SCIENTIFIC KNOWLEDGE IS TRANSFERRED INTO TANGIBLE IMPROVEMENTS IN COMMUNITY LIFE. USDEL SHOULD UNDERLINE THE IMPORTANCE OF TECHNICIAN-LEVEL TRAINING BY CALLING ATTENTION TO THE INTERCONNECTION BETWEEN THIS ASPECT OF THE IHP AND OTHER UNESCO OBJECTIVES, ESPECIALLY 6.2 (INTEGRATED RURAL DEVELOPMENT) AND 7.5 (ENVIRONMENT AND HUMAN SETTLEMENTS).

3. DISCUSSION

(A) THE IHP PLANNING GROUP, MEETING LAST MONTH, DECIDED TO GIVE HIGHEST PRIORITY TO EDUCATION AND TRAINING, VICE SCIENTIFIC RESEARCH. IN KEEPING WITH UNESCO'S INTER-
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DISCIPLINARY APPROACH THE U.S. WOULD LIKE THE IHP TO HAVE THE BENEFIT OF THE EDUCATION SECTOR'S EXPERTISE AS IT PLANS AND IMPLEMENTS ITS TRAINING PROJECTS.

(B) AS CURRENTLY WORDED, COMPLETION OF IHP FIRST PHASE RESULTS IS ONLY "EXPECTED". THE PROPOSED CHANGE WOULD UNDERLINE THE SIGNIFICANCE OF THE SECOND PHASE AS AN OPPORTUNITY FOR EMBARKING ON NEW DIRECTIONS. THE PROGRAM FOR THE SECOND PHASE MUST BE DISENCUMBERED OF PROJECTS FROM THE FIRST PHASE WHICH ARE NOW DEEMED INEFFECTIVE OR LOW-PRIORITY. THEREFORE, ANY PROJECT CARRIED OVER FROM THE FIRST PHASE SHOULD NOT BE GRANTED AUTOMATIC RENEWAL, BUT SHOULD BE REQUIRED TO SUBMIT SPECIFIC JUSTIFICATION.

(C) IF A REVIEW MEETING IS NOT HELD WITHIN THE COMING BIENNIAL IT WILL MEAN THAT 12 YEARS WILL HAVE ELAPSED WITHOUT A REVIEW OF THE IHP BY ALL THE MEMBER STATES IN PLENARY. DURING THE INTERNATIONAL HYDROLOGICAL DECADE, OUR EXPERIENCE WAS THAT THE MID-DECADE PLENARY CONFERENCE, HELD IN 1969, WAS VERY USEFUL, BOTH IN AFFORDING MEMBER STATES A BETTER UNDERSTANDING OF THE DECADE'S AIMS AND ACCOMPLISHMENTS AND IN PROVIDING ADVICE TO THE COUNCIL AND

IHP SECRETARIAT REGARDING PROGRAM PRIORITIES AND EMPHASIS
FOR THE FUTURE. VANCE

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